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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 89, NO. 122

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

TUESDAY notebook

WEATHER

TUES 4/18:
MOSTLY SUNNY
HIGH: 70, LOW: 52

WED, 4/19:
SUNNY
HIGH: 75, LOW: 55

THURS, 4/20:
SUNNY
HIGH: 82, LOW: 59

BREAKING NEWS

MOUSSAOUI FROM ABUSIVE HOME

DEFENSE ATTORNEYS TELL JURORS DECIDING ON EXECUTING 9/11 CONSPIRATOR THAT HE CAME FROM A BROKEN HOME WITH AN ABUSIVE FATHER AND A HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS

CAMPUS

HOW TO DEAL

READ ABOUT HOW TO COPE WITH YOUR FIRST SUMMER HOME FROM SCHOOL
PAGE 2



METRO

"CONVERSIVE"

CONVERSE IS MAKING A SPLASH IN THE HIP-HOP WORLD. CHECK OUT METRO FOR MORE INFO.
PAGE 4



LIFE & STYLE

GET RIGHT FOR THE SUMMER
CHECK OUT LIFE & STYLE TO FIND OUT HOW STUDENTS ARE MAKING IT TO THE END OF THE YEAR AND BEYOND.
PAGE 10



HU CALENDAR

APR 17-23
GENERAL REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER 2006

APR 24-25
FINAL EXAMS FOR FORMAL CLASSES

APR 27
FORMAL CLASSES END

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Students Victims of Crime Spree

BY AYESHA RASCOE
Campus Editor

Three Howard students have been victims of a string of related armed robberies in past 24 hours, police officials say.

Campus Police Chief Lawrence Thomas said about five robberies have occurred since Monday in the metropolitan region; two of the incidents on Howard's campus. Thomas said the Metropolitan Police Department believes each of these incidents have been perpetrated by the same individuals, and officers are currently tracking the group they believe to be responsible.

"Apparently, these thieves drive around until they find victims," Thomas said.

One Cook Hall resident was leaving out of his dorm on Sunday night, when he was accosted at approximately 11:55 p.m. The victim, who declined to be identified, said he was riding in his car when he tried to pass a black SUV, which looked like it was parallel parking. Instead of parking, the car remained at an angle and the student reported that a man, who looked no older than 18, got out of the back of SUV with what the victim described as some sort of machine gun.

The armed man asked for the student's wallet, but threw it back to victim saying he wanted money and no credit cards. After receiving \$30 from the student, the robber seemed to get agitated.

"He kept saying is this all you have," the student said. "[Then] he said I should have shot you in the first place."

The student said the gunman took his cell phone,



Two robberies have occurred since late Sunday night on Howard's campus.

watch, and rammed through his glove compartment before departing in the black SUV. Throughout the incident, the student said he somehow managed to remain calm.

"It was kind of weird. I was basically very chill about it, like I was talking to a friend," the student said.

He said he even managed to get out of his car after the gunman left and follow behind the perpetrators' car on foot to get the license plate number, which he then gave to Metropolitan Police.

Two Howard students sitting outside of the Tubman Quadrangle in a Chevy SUV on Monday afternoon, however, lost more than their personal items. Around 2:30 p.m. several men in a black SUV robbed two male students of their valuables. These two students also reported that their assailant had a gun that did not resemble a handgun.

Although all three students reported that their assailant brandished a gun that seemed larger than a handgun, Thomas stressed that police are not yet certain

about the type of weapon.

The brother of the Cook Hall resident who was robbed Sunday night, who also declined to be identified, said he is disappointed with the security of Howard's campus.

"Why isn't there a police car near each dorm, at least," he said.

He also questioned the effectiveness of the Campus Escort Service, citing incidents where he said it has taken hours up to an hour or more for students to be picked up.

Thomas said Campus Police will be increasing their patrols around campus in response to the incidents. He also said the Metropolitan Police Department, which is in charge of these cases, have assigned two different groups to address these robberies in the third, fourth and tenth districts where the crimes occurred.

"I believe there should be more police in the area, even if they are not visible," Thomas said.

The news of these robberies has shaken some

Howard students.

"I use to only worry about my safety after dark. But now, after the recent attacks in broad daylight, my trips to the Yard will be minimal," said Courtney Darcel Jackson, sophomore legal communications major.

Joshlyn Holland, however, was not shocked by the robberies.

"It happened in broad daylight and that is frightening. But I live in the East Towers, and I'm looking at McDonald's where things happen all the time. I'm not surprised. I'm just grateful I wasn't there," said Holland, a sophomore chemistry major.

Whatever students' reactions may be to the crimes, Thomas urges students to be vigilant. He said students should always be aware of surroundings, use the campus escort, and report any suspicious vehicles or people to the police. If students are unfortunate enough to encounter these criminals, Thomas said they should follow their instructions and give up their valuables.

Mock Trial Team Places Third in Nation



Competing against teams from universities such as Harvard and Columbia, Howard's mock trial team was among only 64 schools out of the 550 competing in the tournament to make it to nationals.

BY ERICA NZEI
Contributing Writer

The mock trial team in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Forensics Society of Howard University placed third in the nation at the 22nd Annual Intercollegiate Mock Trial National Championship Tournament April 7 through April 9.

According to fourth year member, senior political science major Alexis Logan, this is nothing new to the award-winning team. In 1997, the team placed first in the nation and in 2003, second in the nation.

Out of the 550 schools that competed in the tournament this year, only 64 earned the right to pass through to the national tournament. Howard—this year's second place team, Columbia, University of Virginia—this year's first place team, New York University, and Berkeley are just a few big names among them.

"It was in the realm of our regular performance," Logan said. "People always know that when Howard comes because we're always a strong competitor, so they're looking for us to do well."

After last year's upset of not making it to nationals, the team was determined to reclaim their glory and remind all of its competitors of their legacy of remaining amongst the top of the best.

"We had broken the legacy. 'Traumatic' is the only word to describe it because we had worked so hard but just missed it by like a hair," said Janine Austin, co-captain of the team and senior legal communications major said. "That was the first time in the last 13 years that Howard hasn't qualified to go to the national tournament. Not only did we let down our coaches but we let down the whole history of mock trial at Howard so it was the worst burden to carry for that year. When we qualified this year, I was naturally very, very excited."

Despite the upset, the team quickly managed to get themselves together to come back and place in the national tournament this year. Although many other team members were excited about placing third, Austin initially considered it another upset. However, upon further

consideration, she realized placing among the top schools in the nation was great.

One of the coaches of the team and adjunct mock trial professor, Tianna Johnson's joy of the team's placing in the tournament brought her on the verge of tears.

"They are winners in my eyes," Johnson said. "I wanted to cry because they really could have taken first place."

Howard's legacy of excellence in the law field doesn't end with the undergraduate team. Last year, the Howard University School of Law Haver I. Brown Trial Advocacy Mock Court Team won the 2005 National Criminal Justice Trial Advocacy Competition, also competing against two-time champion Harvard University—the first time a historically black institution won the contest.

"This year, we have started to build a relationship with them," Austin said. "They had a reception for us to wish us luck at nationals; hopefully we start a new tradition of building a bridge between the two teams."

Although the tournament is over, the team is already preparing for next year and getting ready to compete in the nationals. However, as graduating seniors, both Austin and Logan will be moving on to law school next year and saying goodbye to what they consider the bulk of their Howard experience.

"I'll probably try at graduation," Austin said. "My whole Howard experience has been based on the mock trial team; leaving Howard itself is sad for me but leaving the mock trial team—some of my best friends and teammates—is really hard."

After all the dedication and long, anxious hours invested into the preparation of this year's tournament, Johnson says she knows the graduating seniors will continue to do great things and predicts the continuance of a legacy from the fresh crop of students that come in for next year's team.

"I'm very proud of them," Johnson said. "It proves what I've always known about the mock trial team and the students that are on the team: we really are among the best in the nation."

Run It!



Mark Bink - Staff Photographer

Chris Brown was the featured artist in the Xbox 360 concert held at Cramton Auditorium last night. The sold-out event was hosted by actor/comedian Brandon T. Jackson of "Roll Bounce" fame and also featured singer T. Pain.



Freshmen Cope with Stress of Returning Home For Break

BY ASWAH CROWDER
Contributing Writer

Sweaty palms, racing hearts and the sense of being overwhelmed are typical sensations that students endure at the end of a school year. While some of us are worrying about getting that "A" on the chemistry final, others are worried about going home for their first summer.

Anxiety among freshmen about spending their first summer at home is not a rare occurrence. According to many psychologists, going home for your first summer is just as much of a transitional period as going from high school to college. Freshman year is a year filled with exploration and independence. It's a time when most students find themselves and it's no surprise that many students change.

According to information distributed in Howard's Counseling Services Office, there are a num-

ber of things freshmen endure on the first summer home. Three of the biggest things freshmen worry about are dealing with parents, old friends back home and keeping in contact with new friends from school. There are also tips to help freshmen deal with these stressful situations.

For starters, parents can pose a big challenge. According to advice pamphlets from counseling services, interacting with parents is the most overlooked problem when going home. Questions arise such as: Do the old rules still apply? Things such as curfews and general house expectations, after almost a whole year of independence and freedom, could be quite stressful when returning home to the watchful eyes of parents.

While students may feel as though they have changed since high school, their parents may not be ready to watch as their son or daughter becomes an adult.

Experts suggest students talk to their parents when arriving home and re-negotiate the rules with them. Discuss curfews and all other general house expectations. Also, be ready for some rules to stay the same.

Another big challenge when going home is dealing with friends. When dealing with old friends, experts suggest students remember that they have just spent the past ten months apart from their friends and relationships may change. These changes may strengthen some of your former relationships, while weakening or eliminating others. Value your high school friends. They gauge how you've changed. Keep in touch, but don't hold on for "old time's sake."

This is something similar to what sophomore sports medicine major Emmanuel Oyeirim experienced when he went home for the summer after his freshman year.

"At first I was excited about going home," Oyeirim said. "I made plans with my friends but once I got there I realized things changed between us."

With new friends, it can be quite hard keeping in contact with old ones, according to experts. They recommend that students remember everybody will be busy once at home. Students should not expect things to be exactly the same as they were in high school or for friends from school to be there whenever you call. The idea is to maintain contact until back at school.

While some are worried about going home, freshman English major like Amber Moody is not very concerned.

"Even though I went through a new experience at college, deep down inside I'm still the same person and therefore I should have no problem reconnecting with my life prior to college," Moody said.



Some counselors say returning home for the summer after freshman year can be stressful, as students have to adjust to their former surroundings after months of independence.

Campus Briefs



FAMU Suspends Kappa Alpha Psi Until 2013

Florida A&M officials have opted to suspend their chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., currently under investigation by Leon County Sheriff's Office, for the next seven years.

Marcus Jones, a 19-year-old sophomore from Decatur, Ga., was reportedly beaten severely in late February while pledging for the fraternity. Jones' injuries required surgery. Five FAMU students have been arrested in connection to the incident.

University spokesperson LaNedra Carroll said in a statement that FAMU records show that the Alpha Xi chapter of the fraternity received at least five cease and desist orders from the national Kappa Alpha Psi organization since 1999.

The fraternity does have the right to appeal the school's decision, according to the FAMU Policy and Procedures manual.

Compiled by Ayesha Rascoe
Campus Editor



University of Maryland Car Thefts Break Records

The University of Maryland has reported more car break-ins, so far in April, than any other month since September. Police are concerned that groups of criminals may be specifically targeting university parking.

According to University police incident reports, in less than two weeks 21 incidents of objects being stolen from secure motor vehicles have been reported. This is more than any other month since April, other than September, which had a total of 24 reported break-ins. The objects most commonly reported stolen from cars include CD players, car stereos, radios, and money.

In the past week, University Police have also reported three vehicles stolen from campus.

In response to these incidents, police spokesman Capt. John Branch said officers are stepping up patrols and observation.



Duke Council Approves New Disciplines

Duke University Arts and Sciences Council convened Thursday to approve new concentrations.

Starting in the next academic school year, undergraduate students may pursue a Bachelor of Science degree, a Bachelor of Art degree, or minor in Statistical Sciences. Faculty also approved four new certificates to foster multidisciplinary studies. The new certificates include Children's Studies in Contemporary Society, Global Health, the Study of Ethics and Arts Management and Cultural Policy.

"We're excited that the faculty has taken on such giant initiatives, all in this one year," said Robert Thompson, Dean of Trinity College of Arts and Sciences and vice provost for undergraduate education. "This is the capstone on innovative efforts this year that will engage undergraduates in unique interdisciplinary studies."

Sources: www.dukechronicle.com, www.diamondbackonline.com, www.tallahassee.com

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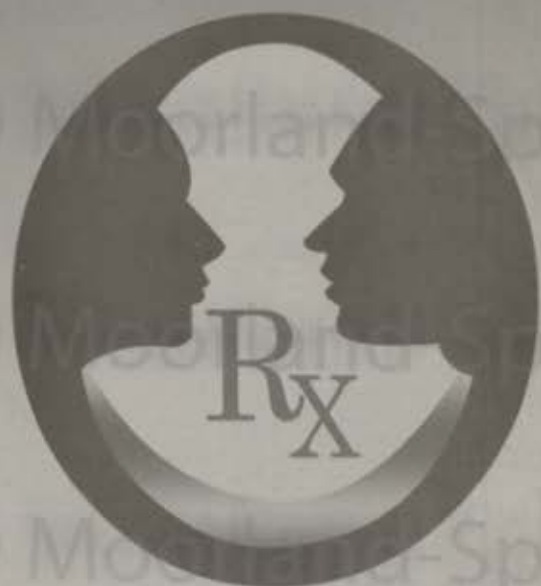
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Converse Encourages Hip-Hop Culture

BY DEMARIO J. GREENE
Contributing Writer

On a dreary, cloudy Saturday, it seemed to be just another slow day; that is unless you were a hip-hop fan.

The Converse Sneaker Art Battle, held at the Warehouse in downtown Washington D.C., was open to people of all ages. The winner of the competition, which will be announced in August, will receive \$1200 in cash, have their design placed on a Converse limited edition sneaker, a Converse Street Mix Tape CD, a pair of pro leather sneakers as worn by "Dr. J" Julius Erving, a commemorative T-shirt, and will have the chance to act as a judge in next year's competition.

The finalists will be determined by a panel of judges, but the final winner will be decided by an online ballot.

The Converse Sneaker Art Battle may have appeared to have just been shoe design competition, but the co-sponsors of this event, Global Artists Productions also wanted to honor the legacy of hip-hop, by also highlighting graffiti art, break dancing, emceeing, DJing and the history of hip hop party promotion.

The Global Artists Productions have been operation since 2003. This non-profit organization seeks to show African-American youth that there are a variety of careers in art, education and entertainment through the medium of hip-hop.

In the center of the entrance room was a collection of roughly 2,000 flyers, from their Hip-Hop History Exhibit, dating



Photo Courtesy of www.hiphop.com

The winner of the Converse Sneaker Art Battle will have their designs placed on a Limited Edition sneaker, and win a pair of pro leather sneakers worn by "Dr. J" Julius Erving. The winner will also serve as a judge in next year's competition.

back to the late '70s/early '80s that were early advertisements for hip-hop parties that birthed the art form that we have come to know today.

Terry Nelson, the executive director of Global Artists Productions, feels that "young people do not see diversity in the background of rappers that they're interested in...Hip-Hop is the motivation for these careers...We show young people the path. We try to get people to think differently, using education. We use hip-hop to open them up to new careers."

Among the multitude of participants, the youth group "Words, Beats and Life" came out in full force. The group is four-years-old and started as a conference, and is part of the Urban Arts Academy, which

hosts several different workshops. The organization also creates murals, conducts conferences and symposiums, and also publishes an academic journal on hip-hop.

13-year-old Lloyd Morton feels as though the program has brought him closer to his career aspirations of being "a videographer," mostly wanting to start off doing things involved with the community.

Cory Stowers, the graffiti teacher for the program and the president of 2DK lab, the largest hip-hop group in the city, said that this event was "nice exposure for the kids to graffiti art."

Matt Mutaha, the executive director of Words, Beats, Life, Inc., said that the event had produced a "great turnout" and is a "great example of how corporate

entities can get involved."

Some of the participants drove from the upper east coast like Krystal Cartagena and her boyfriend. When asked about her unique spiderweb design, she said, "I didn't see anyone else with one...I do art, so I tried to copy some of my own designs onto the sneaker."

Howard University alumni and event planner for this occasion, Dexter Chestnut, said that he got involved because of his love of the art form that sprouted in 1980 and his close relationship with the leaders of the Global Artists Productions. "When I went there, Howard didn't have a [public relations] major. I went in as a journalism major."

Metro Briefs

Washington Post Wins Four Pulitzer Prizes



Reporters from the Washington Post celebrated four Pulitzer Prizes on Monday. The Post received honors including the investigative reporting award for its coverage of Jack Abramoff. Post reporters Susan Schmidt, Aaron Ginzberg and K. Jeffrey Smith were also honored

for their expatriate piece. Davidinkel won the prize for explanatory reporting for writing about the U.S. government's attempt to bring democracy to Yemen. Along with the Post, Gulf Coast newspapers were also big winners Monday, for their coverage of Hurricane Katrina.

D.C. Emancipation Day Celebrated Monday



City officials were excited, and public school children had the day off Monday as the city commemorated the anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's order to free about 400,000 blacks in Washington on April 4, 1863. This order came just months before he signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This year's

celebration was moved to Monday this year because of the Easter holiday. Events included a parade down Pennsylvania Avenue, featuring Mayor Anthony Williams and Council member Vincent Orange. More than 1,000 people were involved in the parade.

Easter Egg Roll



Photo Courtesy of www.fox.com

Thousands of children and their parents braved the chilly rain Monday to participate in the annual White House Easter Egg Roll. President George W. Bush was on hand in the beginning to sound the whistle beginning the race. The children chased thousands of wooden eggs with a wooden spoon. In addition to the Egg Roll, there was an Easter egg hunt, and eggs available for kids to color. Characters entertained the children, and First Lady Laura Bush read to children on the so-called "West Reading Nook." Prior to the festivities, thousands of gay and lesbian parents vowed to attend the annual event, wearing rainbow-colored leis signifying their sexual orientation. Though a few protesters stood outside the White House gate in opposition, for participants, sexual orientation was the last thing on everyone's mind. The White House Easter Egg Roll has been a tradition since the mid-19th century.

No More Whining Over Wasted Wine in Maryland



A bill has passed in both chambers of the legislature that would allow diners to take leftover wine home. The legislation was created in hopes of decreasing drunk driving, because customers would not be forced to consume the entire purchased bottle or have it go to waste. The

open container laws would still apply, meaning that any drunk-driving bottles would need to be in the trunk or glove compartment, out of the way of the passenger seat. If Governor Robert Ehrlich's approval is granted, the bill would take effect in July.

Strip Clubs Struck Out By Baseball Stadium



Real estate deals being brokered in the area allotted for the new baseball stadium are displacing many strip clubs and other adult entertainment establishments. Because of the zoning laws governing the new stadium, these clubs must be vacated

800 feet or more from residences. Discontented owners are already filing off on the issue of the establishments' placement, placing officials in a tough position during the election year.

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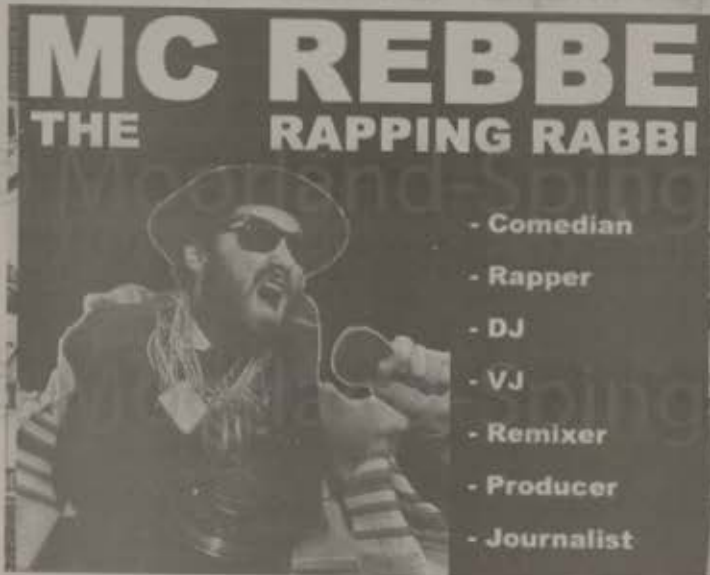
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EDITORIALS & Perspectives

VOLUME 39, NO. 122

APRIL 18, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



Hip-Hop Or Not?

If hip-hop could be compared to anything right now, it would be a hot pile of garbage on a humid summer day. Flies from everywhere come and land on it, take what they want, then fly away leaving a mess behind. "Who are the flies?" you may ask. Right about now, everyone from

Have you ever stopped to really watch the recent programming on MTV? Hip-hopgers have mixed views on Nick Cannon's "Wild 'N Out," but we can agree that the freestyles are corny and watered down. Whenever watching "106 and Park," the budding sinners get on stage

"Takeover" battle rap the culture has become "Isaacsonmese."

Another show that has been a source of without pulling lately is MTV's "Yo Mama" with Wilmer Valderrama. Come on guys, didn't we leave so many jokes in the 90s? Let's not even comment on "Pimp My Ride."

It's funny how capitalism at it's best seems to turn hip-hop into something more. Artists enter to a brand new audience and suddenly we're all bouncing in synch to non-talented rappers and their Billboard chart topping hits. Could we just be getting older or is hip-hop really going down the drain and turning into something foreign? Any time Andy Milonakis' rhymes can make a headline on Allhiphop.com, we're in trouble.

Our View:

The media's representation of hip-hop culture gets cornier every day.

to Geico is mooching off the hip-hop culture. We understand that because rap music is making a lot of money and every company in the world has a hand in it that results in profits. However, for the real hip-hop heads that understand how the music and the culture has disintegrated, this is a real source of headaches. We don't want to buy any CDs and when we do we are disappointed. Music videos are cheesy. The lyrics are mundane. It's all in shambles.

and we are consistently unimpressed with their punch lines and hooks. However, behind the smiles, the hosts consistently utter the phrase "that was hot" after everything. What are we Paris Hiltons now? Is anyone brave enough to say something was on television? Just like Jay-Z's chorus in his "The

Fenty Profile Incomplete

Dear Hilltop,

As a long time resident of Ward 4, I felt the profile of Councilman Adrian Fenty was incomplete.

The caption for his picture said that he would be the youngest black mayor in the U.S. if elected, but the article never presents his age.

Also, though his political affiliations and activism from

college are great, a simple look at city records would have given insight as to how he voted on issues since joining the council.

Is he a native? What does he look like? What kind of person is he? What were some major issues and obstacles he has faced in life? Do those events qualify him to be a leader? Why should we vote for him? What are the opponents' argument? Who are the opponents? How

do their experiences and ages compare to Fenty's?

The article fails miserably as a profile because all these questions remain unanswered. When you write a profile, you should draw a vivid picture.

Show me who Adrian Fenty is. Not what he did.

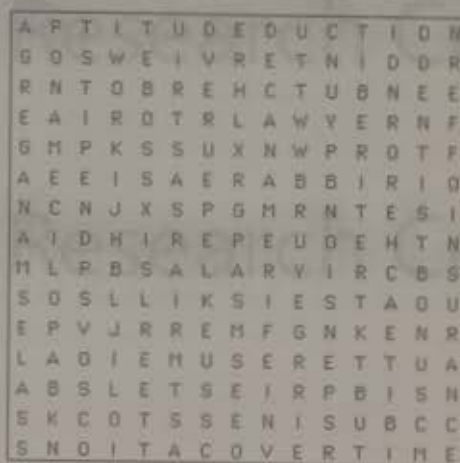
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THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to The Editor or Perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically or by mail to: thehilltop@hmu.edu.

The Hilltop's editorial office is located at 1000 14th St., NW, Washington, DC 20004 and can also be reached via email at thehilltop@hmu.edu and by phone at (202) 681-4444.

The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and use inappropriate, abusive or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

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PIKES/AKAS/DELTAS/HUSA.**

IT'S SENSATIONAL.

THE EDITORIALS ARE DUMB.

IT'S BIASED.

THE PICTURES ARE TOO SMALL.

IT'S POORLY EDITED.

IT DISSOLVES TOO EASILY IN RAIN.

I'M NEVER IN IT!

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COME TO THE HILLTOP LOUNGE, UPPER LEVEL OF
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7 P.M. WEDNESDAY, APR. 19

Access
Granted



Farewell and Go Pistons!

BY CARYN GRANT
Sports Editor

DEAR READER: I know that I've gotten that out of the way, this is my final Access Granted for the year. It's a bittersweet feeling, but it also gives me a great reason to talk about my Pistons. (Not that I ever really need a reason.)

I've spent my all for most of my time as Sports Editor this season. There were numerous weeks when I was tempted to write about my boys in red, white and blue, but I thought about what you, the readers, would want to read. (How generous of me, right?) Today, however, is all about me, Charnese, Rip, Taysham, "Shed," Ben, Flip, Joe D. and Co.

In the Pistons ended up falling a little short of the 70 wins mark that everyone made such a big deal about, but I was never concerned about that feat. MJ, Seattle and the rest of the Bulls squad were amazing in the 1990s season, but what they did that was most important that season was win the NBA Championship (their fourth in six years).

That's what I want from the Pistons this time and I feel quite confident that they will deliver.

I want all of the love that said Detroit's going 70-10 over the Lakers (when Phil had Kobe AND Shaq) was a little to be proven wrong. I want all of the doubters that thought Miami's "stacked roster" would guarantee the Heat an Eastern Conference title to see Taysham's season-long hold up another Eastern Conference Championship trophy. And lastly, I want Dwyane to get a ring.

You see, all of this talk about who will end up atop the West and how the East's bottom seeds will end up is completely irrelevant.

I was happy that the Bulls were able to squeeze into a playoff spot at the last minute, but I hope they can manage to move up from the eighth position because I'd love to see them get demolished in the first round.

The figure should win the West without a problem, but in the Finals, my Pistons will be victorious.

No, they aren't the deepest team in the league. Actually, our bench is run by veteran point Carlos Delfino, an old Dwyane, Lindsay Hunter and a streaky Mo'Nique.

But we have the best starting five in basketball and nobody will beat us (yes, "us") in a seven-game series.

With all that said, Farewell and GO PISTONS!

That's it for me. I'll be committing one of the greatest sports sins and entering in South Bend, Ind., home of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish this summer.

I just hope my Michigan football-loving family can forgive me. I'm still picking the maize and blue at heart. Hey—I could be living in Columbus.

Can't imagine going the whole summer without Access Granted? (Yes, I know it's hard to live without it.) Well, don't fret. I'll be keeping a blog with my three cents on the happenings in the sports world. Check it out at: <http://houseofgrants.com>

Robinson Remembered by Major League Baseball

BY MEAGAN FITZGERALD
Contributing Writer

He shattered the color barrier in Major League baseball, shocked the league with his record-setting talents, and overcame adversity in a time of great civil unrest. He is Jackie Robinson.

On April 15, 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first African-American to play in a Major League Baseball game, paving the way for blacks and ultimately changing the course of history. Fifty-nine years later, his contributions and legacy to the league were remembered and celebrated by Major League Baseball on Saturday.

Fans at Shea Stadium cheered and took to their feet as the ceremony started. Coaches, Teamwork, Excellence, Persistence and other words describing the baseball legend flashed on the video board as Josh Groban sang his hit song, "You Raise Me Up" and Mets and Braves players came out of their dugouts to line up on

the field in his honor.

Among those there to pay tribute was Jackie Robinson's wife, Rachel Robinson, who was escorted to the field by Mets Manager Willie Randolph, and Major League Baseball's president and chief operating officer Bob DuPuy.

Across the country, in California just hours after the ceremony in New York, the Los Angeles Dodgers (once the Brooklyn Dodgers) gave tribute to their very own number 42, Jackie Robinson.

This ceremony also brought fans to their feet and tears to the eyes of many as the video rolled to honor the legend. In attendance at this ceremony was Robinson's daughter, Sharon, who said after the



Baseball legend Jackie Robinson was honored by Major League Baseball Saturday.

video played, "It never gets old. Every time that video goes up I have to hold back the tears."

Sharon Robinson met up with Barry Bonds, son of the late Giants center fielder Bobby Bonds, to introduce him to some of the recipients of the Jackie Robinson Foundation award winners.

Bonds had always known of the legacy that Robinson left behind because of the stories his father used to tell him.

"He was the type of man everyone of us would wish we could be," Bonds said of Robinson.

The Jackie Robinson Foundation was founded by Rachel Robinson in 1973 to honor the memory of Jackie Robinson, his legacy and contribution to Major League Baseball. It is a nonprofit organization

which grants deserving minority youths four-year scholarships for higher education. The foundation awards 1.8 million dollars in scholarship support to 286 scholars enrolled in 93 different colleges in 33 states around the country including Washington, D.C.

Robinson started and finished his career in Major League Baseball with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Throughout his career, he set many team and league records. In 1949, he won the national league batting title with a batting average of .342 and also won MVP.

Robinson helped to lead the Dodgers to six pennants in his ten seasons and is still one of the premier home run hitters of all time. In 1962 he was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

The contribution and groundbreaking achievements of the late Jackie Robinson will live on and will always be remembered through his fans, his foundation and through Major League Baseball.

WNBA Still Going Strong After 10 Years

BY CARYN GRANT
Sports Editor

The WNBA's tenth season starts in May and the league continues to grow as it celebrates its existence for a decade.

From the adoption of "We Got Next" as their slogan and Sheryl Swoopes becoming the first player signed to the league in 1996 to Cynthia Cooper leading the Houston Comets to the first four WNBA championship titles and Lisa Leslie becoming the first WNBA player to dunk in a game, the WNBA has grown rapidly in just 10 years.

Now, the Chicago Sky will join the WNBA family as an expansion team this season.

"Just watching the growth of our league - our fan support and their dedication to us - it just continues to grow," said Lisa Leslie, who has been in the WNBA since it began.

"As well as the opportunity for little girls and boys to have role models as professional women athletes, it's just been a great opportunity to reach people," she told WNBA.com.

Some markets have struggled and the league has seen trouble at points along the road. However, this is something often seen in new sports leagues, both male and female.

"Sports leagues have to take baby steps in order to survive and ultimately flourish," All-Star Diana Taurasi told



WNBA.com. "Every other professional league has gone through its ups and downs in their first ten years, but to make it ten years ensures success in the future. We have a bright future," she said.

This year's rookies weren't even in high school when the WNBA was started.

The skill level of new players has improved tremendously over the years, possibly because they have had a professional league to aspire to.

"When the WNBA first started, I was in high school and I was one of the first of that generation who saw this league as something I could aspire to reach," WNBA champion Kara Lawson told WNBA.com.

"I knew I wanted to play basketball in college, but the league gave me the dream of playing professionally here after college. But me, to be able to see it last and have the opportunity to play in it is special. I am excited about it and just to see the next generation of players who have grown up now with the WNBA being an option," she said.

Many doubted the league would have longevity and predicted it would fold like other attempts at women's professional basketball leagues throughout history, but with a strong increasing market such as this year's, the WNBA looks to have an exciting future.

2006 WNBA First Round Draft Picks

1. Seimone Augustus, Minnesota Lynx, Louisiana State
2. Cappie Pondexter, Phoenix Mercury, Rutgers
3. Monique Curry, Charlotte Sting, Duke
4. Sophia Young, San Antonio Silver Stars, Baylor
5. Lisa Willis, Los Angeles Sparks, UCLA
6. Candice Dupree, Chicago Sky, Temple
7. Shona Thorburn, Minnesota Lynx, Utah
8. Tamara Jankovic, Washington Mystics, Miami
9. La'Tangela Atkinson, Indiana Fever, North Carolina
10. Tyasha Phifer, Charlotte Sting, Tennessee
11. Barbara Turner, Seattle Storm, Connecticut
12. Sherill Baker, New York Liberty, Georgia
13. Kim Smith, Sacramento Monarchs, Utah
14. Scholanda Houston, Sacramento Monarchs, LSU



From right to left: Monique Curry, Cappie Pondexter and Seimone Augustus were the top three picks in the 2006 WNBA Draft.

Gay and Thomas Declare for the Draft



UConn sophomore Rudy Gay and LSU freshman Tyrus Thomas declared that they would enter the 2006 NBA Draft yesterday.



Gay and the Huskies earned a No. 1 seed in this year's NCAA tournament, but were eliminated in the Sweet Sixteen. Thomas led the Tigers to their first Final Four in 20 years.

Two Duke Players Indicted



Two members of the Duke lacrosse team were indicted by a grand jury yesterday in connection with allegations that an exotic was sexually assaulted at a party thrown by team members last month.

The names of the players were not released and Robert Ekstrand, a defense attorney for some of the players, did not say what charges they faced.

The Way I See It...

Summer



BY CIARA FAMBLE
Life & Style Editor

Summer is fantastic—the beaches, the cookouts and various levels of daily coyness are things I start to look forward to every year around this time. Soon the temperate spring will shake off the dew of April and May and give way to long days and even longer nights. The pressure of finals will finally end, and there will be nothing to do except lounge around, drink lemonade and sweet tea mixes.

While many of us will be working and interning at various places for the summer, the fact remains that we'll still be doing a lot more relaxing than anything else. Even the poor graduates, who will be scrambling to find jobs to put away some money to pay those beastly student loans, will find some time to make fun happen. Honestly, I can't wait. There's nothing like a huge break from the daily grind to motivate a person to continue in their endeavors.

I recently found out that I will be spending my summer in New York, and I'm really excited, but just between me and faithful *The Way I See It* readers, I am just as excited now as I was to spend my summer at home last year. It's just the season that I like—it's full of random road trips and family reunions, and you never know when it will be the last time you'll be able to experience something: last summer on our way to my uncle's retirement party in Texas, we decided not to stop in New Orleans because we thought we could take another trip there later. Unfortunately, because of tragedies like Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, that leisure trip is no longer possible.

If that situation taught me one thing, it was not only to cherish the life I have, but also to take advantage of every moment. As cool as I was with spending most of my time in the summer hanging out in the house last year, I sometimes got a little bored. I wished I had gone somewhere else or done something else.

Who knows what memories my family and I could have made if we just took that detour? But now that isn't possible, at least for a while.

So, at the risk of sounding a little too Pollyanna, I'm going to go ahead and say that we should make the most of our break. Even if you're slaving away at an internship, your first "real" job or in summer classes at a local community college, try to take a break. Take a trip to the beach, go to a happy hour, take a personal day. It's only going to improve your quality of life. And when and if you return to the Mecca in the fall, you'll be ready to take on those new classes, and with any luck, you might make it to class even when it's warm out, just because you already had so much fun. And if that doesn't work out, at least you'll have some fabulous stories to share.

So grab your oversized sunglasses and sun block (brown people need it too) and make your own fun. Have a great summer!

Ciara can be reached at lifeandstyle2006@yahoo.com.

My Own Spot ... Or Maybe Mom's? Seniors Decide

BY KISA WILLIA
Contributing Writer

As graduation approaches, many seniors are making final preparations for their big move into "the real world."

Many graduating seniors dread the "what's next" question, but as time draws near, many are forced to make some major financial decisions that will affect how and where they live.

With their degree in hand and no more term papers to turn in, some are ready to trade in their schoolbooks for their brand new car.

Others, coming from Howard located in the vibrant capital, Washington, D.C., want to move to other major cities such as New York, Atlanta and Los Angeles to begin their professional career.

While wish lists include living big, account balances allow less.

Responsibilities like student loans and necessities like food, shelter, clothing and transportation make money quite an obstacle from the desired lavish life immediately out of college.

Howard seniors have multiple plans to attack their financial situations.

Some seniors do not have the option to go home or to receive parental support. These financially independent students have had to make plans for their next steps.

Charles Napier, a senior accounting major, has allotted herself a time frame to move to another city and begin her career. "I'm moving to New York for [in] at least two years," Napier said.



Photo Courtesy: www.photomart.net

As seniors prepare to find their place in the "real" world, many financial options arise. Some students choose to move back home, while others find jobs and move into their own apartments. Whatever option they choose, students should be cautious with their entry-level salaries.

She plans to be an associate staffer in a small New York company.

Dr. Sandip Mukherji, a finance professor, recommends to students who do not have job plans to be more flexible. "Unemployment rate is at an all time low. Under five percent. [Students] shouldn't be that picky with their first job." He suggests students use their first job to help them get what they want for their ultimate career goals.

Some seniors are able to rely on

parental support to assist them through their transitioning period.

Jessica Young, a graduating television production major, plans to move to Los Angeles after graduation. "My dad knows some people out there. He's helping me out [financially] until I get situated," Young said.

Students from major cities that offer jobs in their field decide to move back home with parents.

Theatre arts acting major Cory

Davis plans to move back home to New York to be a professional actor. "I audition during the day and get a part-time job at night." He would have "five rest" by living at home and would have minimal expenses such as cell phone, insurance and transportation costs. "Until six months later, I'll be getting paid," Davis said.

Some graduating seniors already have job offers from companies. "I have several job offers to choose

from," said Layne Ericka, senior finance major. He plans to be an investment banker in New York. "New York is very expensive, but [the potential companies] would be okay if they did not provide accordingly."

Dr. Mukherji says budgeting is very important even with minimal expenses and an income. "If you don't have a budget, you can easily overspend." He does not recommend a specific budget plan. "Some like eating out more, and some like cooking at home and spending more on entertainment. Ultimately, it has to add up to your income."

More seniors are entering the workforce rather than going immediately to graduate school, but those that are working for their Master's degree have additional financial expenses to handle.

While some graduate schools give scholarships and even some stipends, others require their students to obtain their tuition money elsewhere.

Richard Violet, a senior film major, will attend the American Film Institute Conservatory in Los Angeles. To pay for this additional education, he is seeking scholarships, loans, financial aid or possible work-study at the school. "During the summer I'll be working to raise money back home."

Regardless of what seniors decide to do after graduation, Dr. Mukherji warns about getting in debt. "Keep expenses low. The more you borrow, the more you consume. But through your entire life, you get less."

Finals: A Period of Relaxation for Some Students

BY CRYSTAL SCHANETTE
Contributing Writer

The school year is rounding out and professors are piling on work. Students are making those last minute adjustments to make final impressions on professors. It is officially final season. Some students will succumb to the pressure while others will use relaxing alternatives. Mary Howard, University students experience more stress at the end of the semester when finals are coming up. So how do students relax before finals?

LaQueenia Brown, a sophomore administration of justice major, uses exercise and prayer to get through finals. "I try to avoid stress, but when I am feeling stress I run around the track. It's outside so I can enjoy the warm air and just get away from class," Brown said.

Toni Philip, a sophomore television production major and Kevin Henry, a sophomore international business major use parties as a way to escape the pressure of class. According to Philip, "Fridays begin my weekend. I don't have to wake up early and can't forget about school for 48 hours and just relax and have fun with friends." Henry agreed

with Philip, saying, "As a business student and future entrepreneur, I don't have time to relax during the week so when the weekend comes I am ready to party."

A common stress reliever hang out is the Yard. The Yard provides a free alternative to students who just want to relax and hang out with friends. "The Yard is a place where you can meet new people, find out what happened in class or just chill out," said sophomore computer engineer Segun Awokoya. Still, relieving stress sometimes takes more than conversation. April King, a radio production major uses summer plans as motivation to overcome stress. "I just think about going home and relaxing. I haven't started packing yet, but I will do so once classes officially end," April said. Thinking of summer is one way to pass time in between studying. However, some students do not get stressed over finals.

For some Howard students, finals are another component of college life. "Finals are a known part of college life. So why should I stress myself," said Derrick Bumbolt, a sophomore computer engineering major. Most professors announce whether or not there will be a final for their class



Yia Photo

Most college students try to find ways to relax during the taxing time of finals.

at the beginning of the semester; therefore, students have all semester to prepare. Still, many students let final pressures get to them. The important thing to do is to relax. Providence College (www.providence.edu) offers these suggestions when dealing with academic stress: Avoid procrastination to keep work from overwhelming you, go over your work the day of your class, create question notes, plan for fun

and get some sleep. Using these tips will help students avoid and overcome stress.

These alternatives do not make finals disappear. It just makes life as a Howard student less stressful. With summer approaching, students are eager to get out and just relax. Still, the pressure to gain a high GPA is critical and students are willing to miss sleep to maintain one. The important thing to do is

relax and not panic. Make summer plans or take 20 minutes out of your day to catch some fresh air. Whether you choose to exercise, hang out on the Yard, pray or party, make sure to take some time out to relax. Finals are a tough time for many students. The key to success is staying patient and having confidence in all that you do.

Striving to Obtain that Perfect Summer Body

BY ROBYN FRANKS
Contributing Writer

Summertime is finally approaching and you're sure to see men and women showing lots of skin wherever you go. During the months approaching the summer, some of us look down and realize the last thing we want to do is unveil our tummy rolls, fat backs and not-so-defined curves. The winter allows you to cover up in heavy hoodies and sweaters, but in the summer heat it is not an easy task to cover it all up.

"I envision what I want to look like and I look at the way I look now," said senior sociology major Matthew Blair, who works out on a regular basis. "In the summer time you want to be able to show off your body."

The main excuse for most students is not having enough time. Most of us are full-time students, have jobs and are involved in extracurricular activities. For students, the main problem is finding a balance between busy schedules and staying in shape as well as eating healthy.



Photo: J. Smith

Faced with the prospect of a summer filled with outdoor activities, many students are changing their eating and exercise habits to get the ideal summer body.

"I make time and I make sure it is a part of my day [exercise]. It's almost like going to class: it has become a part of my daily routine," said sophomore pre-pharmacy major Benjamin Quintanilla. "High blood pressure and diabetes runs in my family and I want to stick to what I do to ensure I [don't have] either and

since it's the entire bad habits die hard."

When it comes to eating, it's always easier to hit a fast food spot on Georgia Ave. or load up on too much food at the cafeteria. During a typical day, a student may begin the day with an early morning class and only have an hour break before having to

go to class again or an organizational meeting.

Robin Bellamy, a sophomore public relations major, is one of the many full-time students that work a job as well. "Sometimes I'll make my lunch in the morning and take it to work ... but normally I don't have time so I eat every now and then, which consists of whatever is convenient: fries, chips, or maybe candy."

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the most important part in a healthy diet is a balance overall with foods from all food groups, with lots of delicious fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and fat-free or low-fat milk and milk products.

Gregory Brown, a junior economics major, says his eating habits are the worst during the school year. "It's hard to find the motivation to exercise and eat right until the season changes. However, I do try to get in some exercise by taking the steps instead of the elevator or walking rather than take the shuttle bus."

The U.S. Department of Health

and Human Services also suggests a small number of calories from added sugars that are in candy, cookies and cakes. And for students that are of legal drinking age, they say that your diet should not include more than one alcoholic beverage per day for women and only two drinks per day for men.

Sophomore psychology major Tawanda Whiting has a very hectic schedule. "My classes start at 8:00 a.m. and I get out of school at 2:00 p.m. I then have some time to do school work before I have to be at work by 5:00 p.m. I don't get off until 11:00 p.m., so of course that does not leave much time to exercise," Whiting said.

There are many students who have a similar schedule or worse. The most important thing is realizing that a healthy diet and fitness should be a priority. Trying to get in shape just to fit into your summer bikini or tankini is not good enough. Fitness and eating healthy must be a lifestyle all year round.